

Ministry of Information & Communications Technology

Office of the Minister

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Press Statement

19th April 2023

DRAFT NATIONAL DATA PROTECTION AND GOVERNANCE POLICY 2023 RELEASED FOR CONSULTATION

I wish to advise stakeholders and the public that the Ministry through the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) has drafted the National Data Protection and Governance Policy, which will be released for public consultation on 21st April 2023.

This policy draft represents a significant milestone in our efforts toward digital transformation but more-so to the protection of personal data and privacy rights of the people of Papua New Guinea. The policy is designed to provide a framework for the responsible use, management, and governance of data across public and private sector.

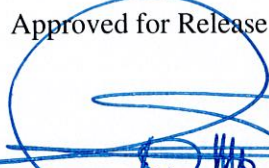
As the world becomes more digitized, data has become an asset and is fundamental to the economic, social, and political development of our country. However, with the increased use of data comes the risk of data breaches and misuse, which can have significant consequences for individuals and society.

The draft National Data Protection and Governance Policy aims to mitigate these risks by providing clear guidelines on how data should be collected, stored, processed, and used. It seeks to promote accountability and transparency in the handling of data and protect the privacy rights of our citizens.

The Policy draft will be accessible on the DICT website: <https://www.ict.gov.pg/policy> . The draft will be available commencing 21st of April 2023 for consultation over a period of 14 day ending 5th of May 2023.

We believe that this policy draft will contribute to building a digital ecosystem that is secure, trustworthy, and respects the rights of the people of Papua New Guinea. We urge stakeholders and the public to provide their feedback and comments during the public consultation period so that we can refine the policy to best suit our unique context and needs.

Approved for Release


HON. TIMOTHY MASIU, MP
Minister for Information and Communication Technology
And Member for South Bougainville



